

# LivingCharacters

Lubbock Christian University Center for Character Development

## Part 1

### Background Information

Jesus traveled through the country teaching and healing people. He was very popular and people said He spoke like someone who had authority, and not like their teachers of their law. Thousands of people followed Him everywhere he went. Some of them were just curious...some were genuinely interested in what He had to say.

Jesus had just heard the news of the death of John the Baptist and had gone by boat to a quiet place to be alone. When Jesus saw that the crowd had followed on foot, He had compassion on them and healed their sick.

**We can learn much about caring and sharing as we study this story.**

Who were the main characters in this story?

---

---

---

---

What was the big problem with the crowd?

---

---

What suggestion did the friends of Jesus make?

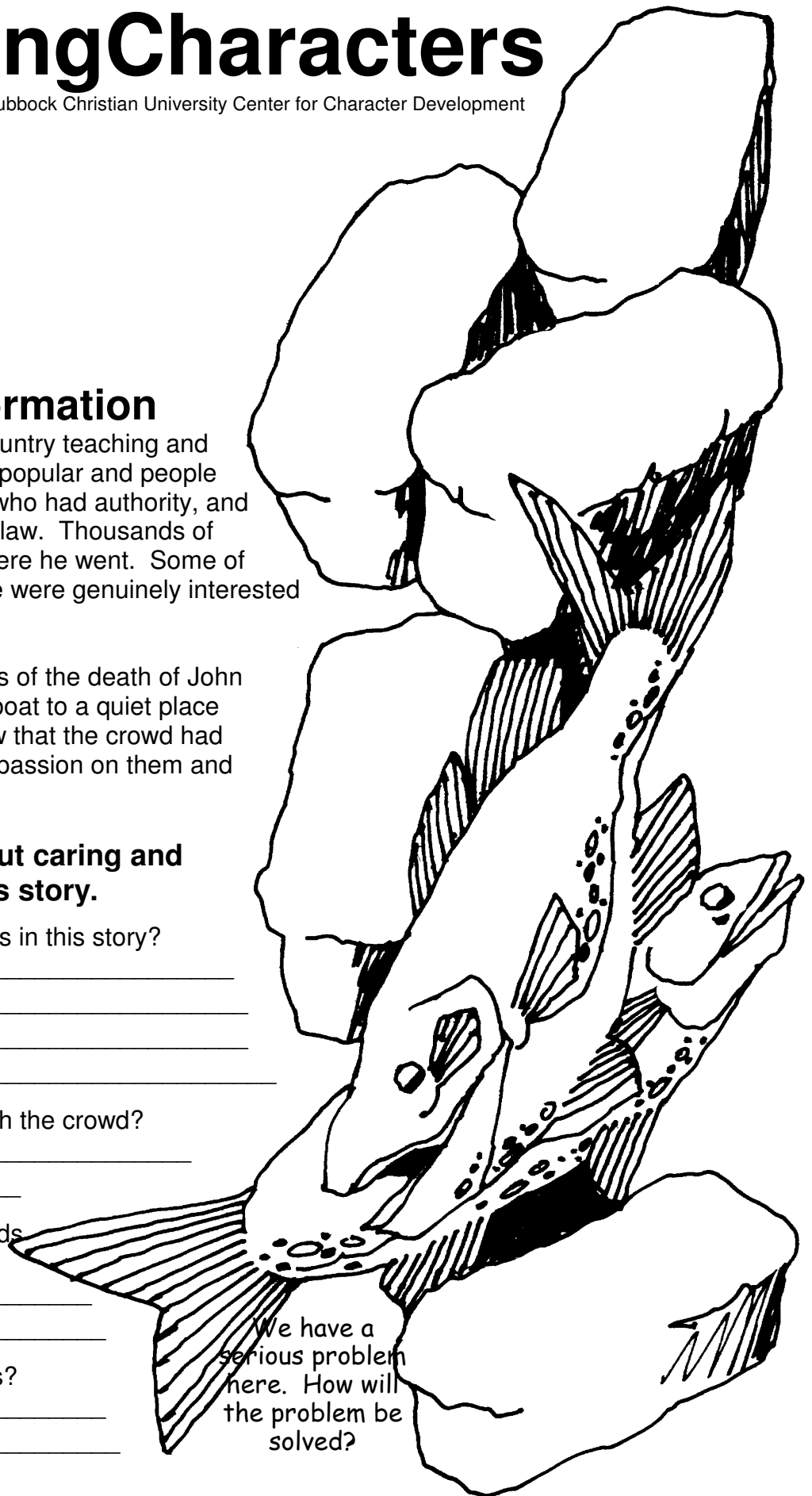
---

---

What did Jesus tell his friends?

---

---



We have a serious problem here. How will the problem be solved?

# What was the solution to the problem?

---

---

---

---

---

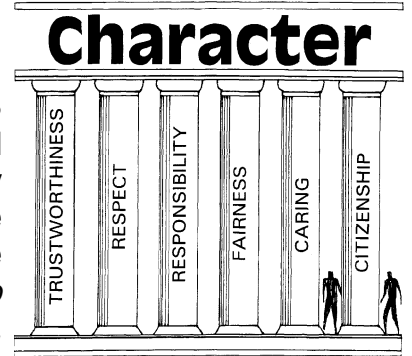
---

---

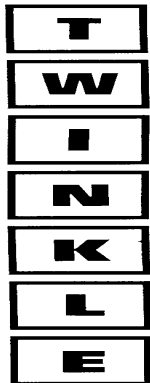
## Six Pillars of... Character

### Understanding Values and Virtues

Jesus spent 4 years teaching a special way to live. He showed He was someone special by the special things He did. Many believed what he said, but others did not believe. Many people did not agree with this new way because it was different from the old way they knew. *Many people are curious, others really want to know what is best. We can learn from all kinds of people.*



The **Ethical Process** in finding solutions to any problem.



**Think**

**Weigh** all the parts which make up the problem. Separating the symptoms from the causes.

**Investigate** the perception of the ethical dilemma. Is it based on selfishness, self-interest, self-protection or self-righteousness? (The four natural enemies to ethics.)

**Now**, is right or wrong involved? How do we determine which is involved?

**Know** your ethical vocabulary (six pillars). Review and reflect on their supporting words.

**Look** for the higher ethic or standard.

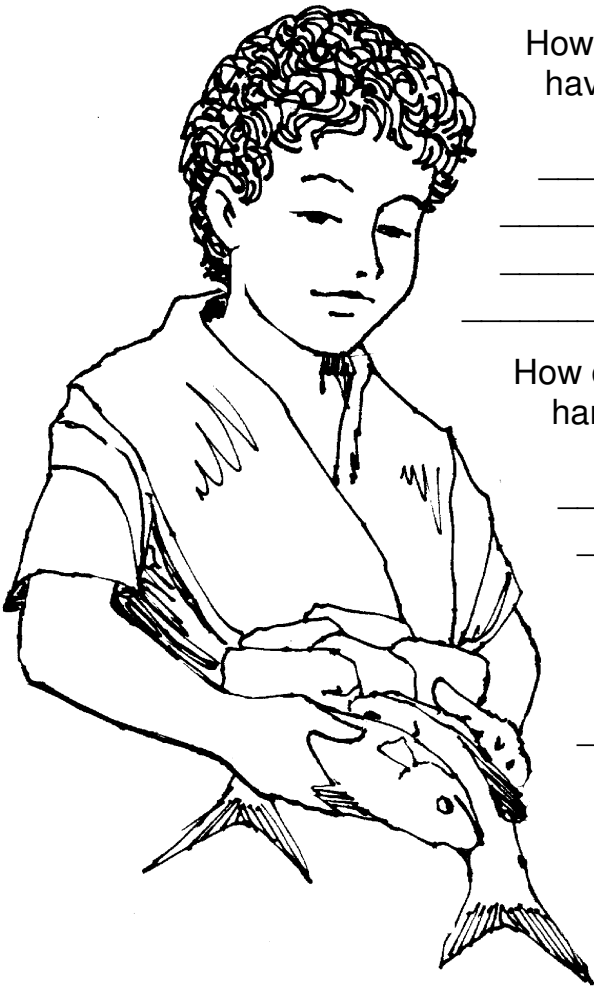
**Evaluate** the outcome. Is it truly a good character decision?

# History

History tells us the crowd was made up of 5,000 men, besides the women and children. Feeding as many as 15,000 people with only one lunch was an amazing thing. But, Jesus was known for doing amazing things. Jesus was also known for his compassion. This means Jesus genuinely cared about people.

Although we cannot feed so many people with just one lunch, we can care about people like Jesus did. He was concerned about their joys, their sorrows and everything in between.

Jesus was not the only person in this story that cared. What about the friends of Jesus? What about the boy who had the lunch?



How did the boy with the fish show good character? Did he have to share? He had walked a long way just like everyone else. It was his lunch.

---

---

---

How did Jesus show good character? He had been working hard, was tired and had just lost someone he loved. He needed to be alone.

---

---

---

---

---

---

**How can I be prepared so I can show good character when a situation like this comes up?**

What does what I think tell me about what others think?

---

---

---

Does it help to roll play? Explain!

---

---

---

How does it help to practice?

---

---

---